

BA-33
Fort Garrison
Garrison Farms Court,
east of Stevenson Road
Pikesville

1695

This site was headquarters for a troop of mounted rangers appointed by Governor Nicholson to patrol the Indian trails from the Patapsco to the Susquehanna in search of hostile parties. The outpost was also called Oulton's Garrison for commander Captain John Oulton of Oldton. A fieldstone building, 18 x 48 feet, with thick walls and a great fireplace remains. Its openings have been identified as gunports. The property was acquired by the Baltimore County Department of Recreation and Parks when the area was suburbanized in 1965. The roof was restored following a campaign led by E. Frances Offutt. It is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Maryland	
COUNTY: Baltimore County	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

1. NAME
COMMON: Fort Garrison, Garrison Fort
AND OR HISTORIC: Oulton's Garrison, Risteau's Garrison, Olton's Garrison, Oldton's Garrison, Garrison's Forest Fort

2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: (no number) Garrison Farms Court			
CITY OR TOWN: Stevenson			
STATE: Maryland	CODE: 24	COUNTY: Baltimore County	CODE: 005

3. CLASSIFICATION			
CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <u>Vacant</u>

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY		
OWNER'S NAME: Baltimore County Bureau of Recreation and Parks		
STREET AND NUMBER: 301 Washington Avenue		
CITY OR TOWN: Towson	STATE: Maryland	CODE: 24

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION		
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Baltimore County Courthouse		
STREET AND NUMBER: Washington Avenue		
CITY OR TOWN: Towson	STATE: Maryland	CODE: 24

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS		
TITLE OF SURVEY: Maryland Register of historic sites and landmarks		
DATE OF SURVEY: 1970	<input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local	
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Maryland Historical Trust		
STREET AND NUMBER: Post Office Box 1704 (50 State Circle)		
CITY OR TOWN: Annapolis	STATE: Maryland	CODE: 24

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Maryland	
COUNTY: Baltimore	
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ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Fort Garrison is located on the north side of Garrison Farms Court east of Stevenson Road, north of the Baltimore Beltway (near exit 21) and south of Glenmar and Keyser Road, Maryland.

Fort Garrison is a rectangular, fieldstone building built in the 1690's approximately forty-eight feet long and eighteen feet wide with one stone fireplace on the east end-wall whose chimney is enclosed within that wall. Originally a one-story building with a steep roof, early nineteenth-century alterations raised the height of the fort building adding a second story loft and a wood shingle roof. The second-story windows on the exterior flare inward for twenty inches, creating larger interior openings. The door sills are raised thirty-seven inches above the ground. The ceiling height of the one-room fort is seven feet ten inches.

In a copy of the "Report on Inspection of Fort Garrison," October 28, 1963, from Dr. Henry Chandlee Forman, FAIA, historian and architect, he described the alteration of the fort:

"After a hole had been knocked through the loft ceiling, the old loft partition of rough boards and battens was found to go through the ceiling indicating that ceiling, of machine-made laths and plaster, was put in later. The rough boards extended to the roof.

"'Fort Garrison' gives evidence of some antiquity, but just how old it is is difficult to judge from what is left. The rafters are pegged together, and the collar beams are pegged to the rafters. The oak frames of the old louvers or loopholes, the casement windows, and the outside doors are held together with pegs about one inch in diameter. The loft floor is of random width oak boards, some 14 inches wide, held down by nails; the nails could not be identified as rose-headed. In fact no rose-headed nails in the building were located; but that does not mean that the edifice did not have them. ..."

"It is possible that the shell of the structure served as a fort and that about 1800 the building was entirely remodeled as a farm outhouse. ..."

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

2. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- ☐ Pre-Columbian ☐ 16th Century ☒ 18th Century ☐ 20th Century
☐ 15th Century ☒ 17th Century ☒ 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1695 to 1705 Alterations about 1820

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Phi- | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | losophy | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Human- | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | itarian | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The sole remaining original stone blockhouse in Maryland, Fort Garrison was constructed following a 1693 order from Governor Francis Nicholson and his Council. It originally served as a stronghold against Indian attacks during the last decade of the seventeenth century and again in 1755 it was used during the French and Indian War.

As early as 1681 the Council of Maryland proposed sending a group of rangers to each county to watch for Indian attacks. At first, rangers were recruited on an emergency basis only; however, during the subsequent decade, the Council ordered that a fort be constructed in Baltimore County near the falls of the Patapsco River and near the Susquehanna River giving permanence to their function and a place for the rangers to live as well as defense against Indian attack. The site chosen for the garrison near the Slaughterhouse Run branch of the Jones Falls was convenient to two Indian trails, one used by the Senecas and one by the Delawares. Fort Garrison was the fruition of this order.

In 1694 John Oldton (Oulton, Olton) received an appointment as Captain of the rangers. It is possible that Oldton supervised the construction of Fort Garrison. Oldton (-1709), who had moved to Baltimore County before 1688, is most often associated with the fort which is sometimes called Oldton's Garrison. He also was granted a patent (1696) for the land within the boundaries on which the fort was built.

During Oldton's command, Daniell Welsh, Henry King, Thomas Robards, Tobias Stanberry, Josias Bridges and Mosses Edwards, his six rangers, scouted Baltimore County looking for Indians and marking trails, some of which trails revolved into twentieth-century roads (e.g. Joppa Road and Rolling Road.)

Rangers were expected to use the fort as a garrison during the winter. Alternating weeks half of the rangers would explore the frontier from Monday to Saturday, leaving

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Maryland	
COUNTY Baltimore County	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entries)

Fort Garrison

#6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS continued

1965 - County

Baltimore County Historical Society

Depository for Survey Records:

Baltimore County Historical Society

Agriculture Building

9811 Van Buren Lane

Cockeysville, Maryland 21030

Code: 24

#8. SIGNIFICANCE continued

the remainder to defend the fort. The government, in Annapolis, provided their supplies and pay, and also dispatched Bibles and religious books to the rangers to "read while "...Rang[ing] out upon Publik Service..." (Archives of Maryland, Volume XX, 204).

Until 1698, when Oldton was relieved of his commission, no Indians threatened the garrison: life there in the 1690's was uneventful. After he left it is doubtful if the fort was used at all. The vanguard of settlement had reached, if not exceeded, its location, thereby ending its usefulness as a frontier outpost.

The garrison and the land it stood on changed hands several times before the fort again saw duty. In 1755, after General Braddock's defeat in the French and Indian War, Captain John Risteau, a Maryland ranger who owned Fort Garrison, reactivated it to defend Baltimore County. However, neither French nor Indians attacked the garrison. Without a threat of invasion and with the expansion of settlement the usefulness of the building as a point of defense again dwindled.

The significance of Fort Garrison as an example of a Maryland frontier outpost was unrecognized until the mid-twentieth century. In 1965 Baltimore County Bureau of Recreation & Parks acquired the fort in order to preserve this remnant of Maryland's early history.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Maryland	
COUNTY Baltimore County	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entries)

Fort Garrison

#9 REFERENCES continued

_____, "The Baltimore County 'Garrison' and the Old Garrison Roads," Maryland Historical Magazine, XVI (June 1921), 105-149.

Henry Chandlee Forman, Early Manor and Plantation Houses of Maryland, Easton, Maryland: the Author, 1934.

_____, Old Buildings, Gardens and Furniture in Tidewater Maryland, Cambridge, Maryland: [Tidewater Publishers], 1967.

Raphael Semmes, Captains and Mariners of Early Maryland, Baltimore: Johns Hopkins Press, 1937.

Rev. Hobart Smith, The Garrison Church - Sketches of the History of St. Thomas' Parish, Garrison Forest, Baltimore County, Maryland, 1742-1852, Rev. Ethan Allen (ed.), no place: James Pott, 1898.

Matt Smith, "Fort Garrison Only Relic of Indian Defense in Area," Baltimore American, February 8, 1959.

The Sun (Baltimore), August 23, 1961.

Land Records: (1) Baltimore County Courthouse, Towson, Maryland, Liber 4447 folio 90.
(2) Hall of Records, Annapolis, Maryland.

Archives of Maryland, Volume XX, Proceedings of the Council of Maryland 1693-1696/7, Baltimore: Maryland Historical Society, 1900.

Forman, H. Chandlee, FAIA, Easton, Maryland:

A copy of a "Report on Inspection of Fort Garrison" submitted by Mr. John Sprinkle & Mr. John McGrain, Chairmen of the Baltimore County Historical Society, before 1969. Permission for use dated October 25, 1970 to the Maryland Historical Trust.

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Recorders: John W. McGrain, Chairman, Fort Garrison Committee, Baltimore County Historical Society, 9811 Van Buren Lane, Cockeysville, Maryland; and Nancy Miller, Historian, Maryland Historical Trust, P. O. Box 1704, Annapolis, Md.

William B. Marye, "The Old Indian Roads," Maryland Historical Magazine, Volume XV #3 (Sept. 1920), 210, 215.

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY					O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES				
CORNER	LATITUDE			LONGITUDE		LATITUDE			LONGITUDE	
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees		Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
	°	'	"	°		'	"	°	'	"
NE	39°	23'	53"	76°	42'	31.5"				
NW	39°	23'	58"	76°	42'	26.5"				
SE	39°	23'	54"	76°	42'	26.5"				
SW	39°	23'	54"	76°	42'	31.5"				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 4 acres

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:

Mrs. Preston Parish, Keeper of the Maryland Register

ORGANIZATION

Maryland Historical Trust

DATE

Dec. 2, 1970

STREET AND NUMBER

Post Office Box 1704 (50 State Circle)

CITY OR TOWN

Annapolis

STATE

Maryland

CODE

24

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National ☐ State ☒ Local ☐

Name

Orlando Ridout IV

Title

State Liaison Officer
for Maryland

Date

DEC 3 1970

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

0300331007

1. STATE Maryland COUNTY Baltimore TOWN Pikesville VICINITY Dist. III STREET NO. Stevenson Road		HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY INVENTORY BA-33	
ORIGINAL OWNER ORIGINAL USE PRESENT OWNER PRESENT USE WALL CONSTRUCTION NO. OF STORIES		2. NAME Fort Garrison DATE OR PERIOD 1695 STYLE ARCHITECT BUILDER	
4. NOTABLE FEATURES, HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND DESCRIPTION		3. FOR LIBRARY OF CONGRESS USE	
<p>Headquarters for a troop of mounted rangers who patrolled the paths from the Patapsco to the Susquehanna Rivers, as a protection against hostile Indians. A rectangular building of field stone, with loft, gun windows, thick walls, great fire place.</p> <p>Surrounded now by a development; fort is owned by Baltimore County under the Department of Recreation and Parks.</p>			
5. PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE Endangered Interior Exterior			
6. LOCATION MAP (Plan Optional)		7. PHOTOGRAPH	
3. PUBLISHED SOURCES (Author, Title, Pages) INTERVIEWS, RECORDS, PHOTOS, ETC.		9. NAME, ADDRESS AND TITLE OF RECORDER (First HABS Report) E. Frances Offutt HABS COMMITTEE OF BALTIMORE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY DATE OF RECORD July 29, 1965	

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION AND PHOTOGRAPHS MAY BE ADDED ON SHEET OF SAME SIZE

Nov 1970

Fort Garrison BA-33
BA III 33

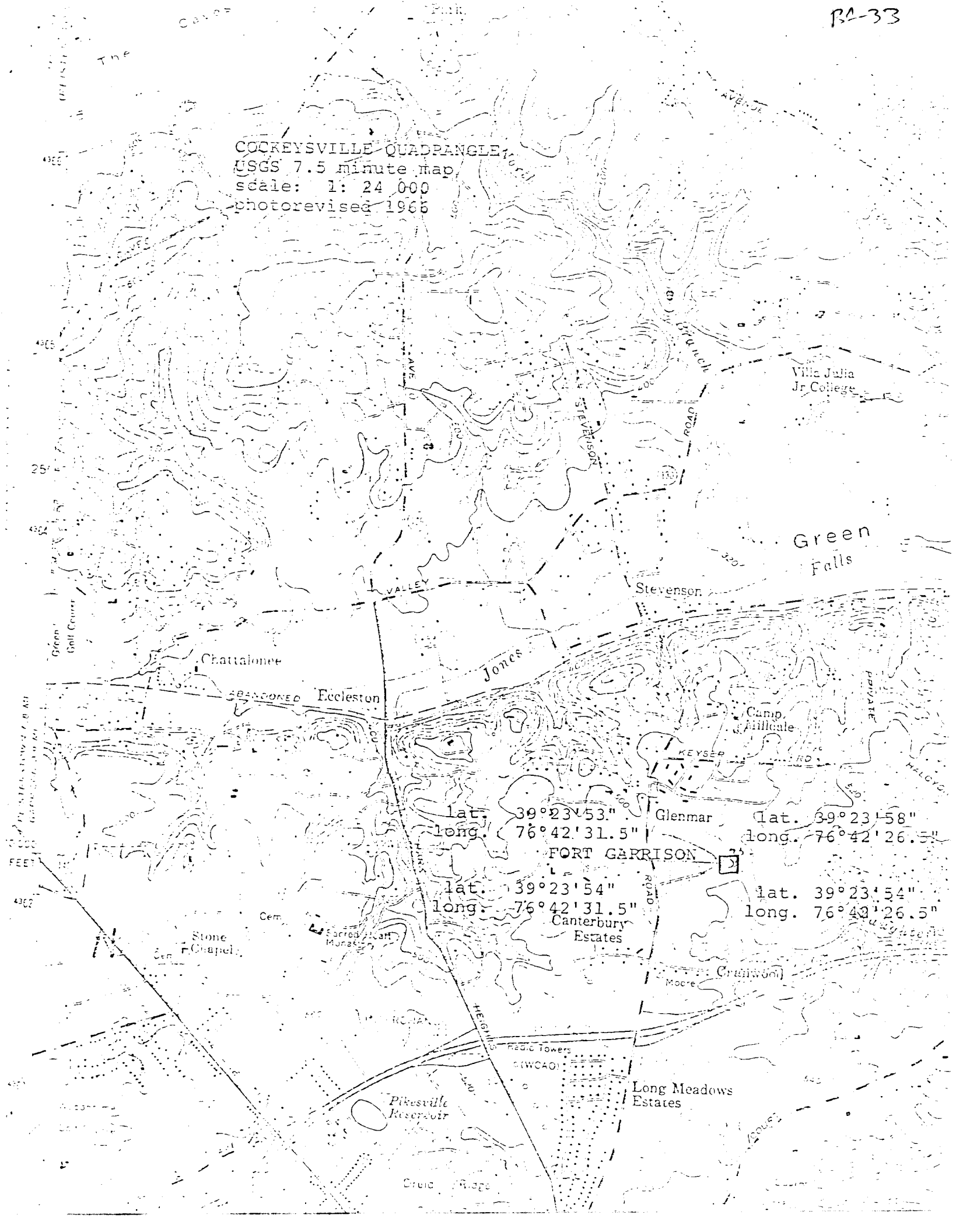
- 24-71-00004 - Denton House Restoration
- 24-71-00005 - La Vale Toll Gate House Restoration
- 24-71-00006 - William Paca Gardens Restoration
- 24-71-00007 - Pemberton Hall Restoration
- 24-71-00008 - Fuller-Balser Log House Rehabilitation
- 24-71-00009 - William Paca House Rest. Proj.
- 24-71-00010 - John Callahan House Restoration
- 24-71-00011 - Hancock's Resolution Restoration
- 24-71-00012 - Union Mills Homestead
- 24-71-00013 - Fort Garrison Restoration
- 24-71-00014 - Valve House Restoration
- 24-71-00015 - St. Mary's City Restoration - Sister's Freehold
Archaeological Site
- 24-71-00016 - Hessian Barracks, Frederick, Restoration
- 24-71-00017 - Frederick County Historical Society House Restoration

24-71-00018 U.S. FRIGATE CONSTELLATION added 11/16/70
OK cc

see Brufford

etc 11/13/70

COCKEYSVILLE QUADRANGLE
USGS 7.5 minute map
scale: 1: 24 000
photorevised 1966



Villa Julia
Jr College

Green
Falls

Stevenson

Chattalonnee

Eccleston

Camp
Mille

Glenmar

lat. 39°23'58"
long. 76°42'26.5"

FORT GARRISON

lat. 39°23'54"
long. 76°42'31.5"

Canterbury
Estates

lat. 39°23'54"
long. 76°42'26.5"

Stone
Chapel

Sacred Heart
Monastery

Crutwood

Moore

Radio Towers
(WCAO)

Long Meadows
Estates

Pikesville
Reservoir

Greig Ridge



BA. - ³³~~8~~ Fort Garrison

C.L.M. 8/74



BA-~~3~~ JLF 10/75
33

Fort Garrison, BA-33

815



BA. ~~33~~
33

J. L. F. 10175

8/5



33
BA. ~~B~~ Font Garrison
C.L.M. 8/74